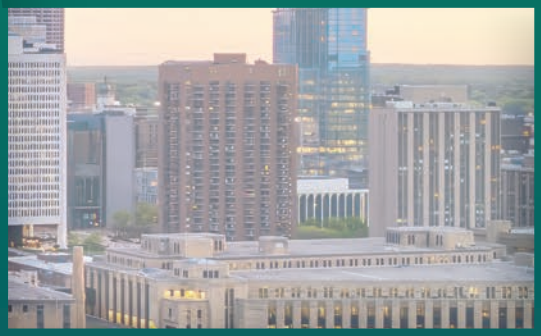
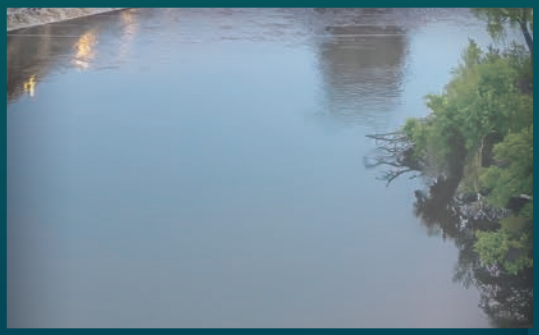
Association for Play Therapy
United States

ANNUAL

APT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 13-18, 2026





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REGENCY
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MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
APPLYING THE THERAPEUTIC POWER OF PLAY!

Annual Association for Play Therapy International Conference

October 13-18, 2026

Association for Play Therapy (APT)

APT is a national professional society established in 1982 to advance play therapy practice, instruction, supervision, and research. For more information regarding our mission, programs, member benefits, or to register online, visit www.a4pt.org. We look forward to welcoming you to Minneapolis, Minnesota for the Annual APT International Conference!

Program Overview

Join us for an inspiring event designed to support your professional goals! The Annual APT International Conference features more than 90 workshops and offers up to 40 hours of continuing education. This six-day experience provides meaningful learning opportunities for every stage of your career.

The program features a mix of half-day and full six-hour workshops, interactive evening sessions, and small-group discussions designed to encourage meaningful exchange. Whether you want to strengthen your clinical skills, explore new approaches, or connect with colleagues, you'll find sessions aligned with your interests and experience level.

2026 Target Audience & Conference Goals

Counselors, psychologists, school counselors, school psychologists, social workers, marriage and family therapists, and other mental health professionals both within and outside of the United States will:

- **Earn CE credits** for licensure and play therapy credentialing while deepening your expertise in:
  - Current play therapy research and core theoretical foundations.
  - Practical, hands-on techniques you can use immediately in clinical practice.
  - Strengthening therapeutic relationships with children and families through play
- **Explore a vibrant exhibit hall** featuring the latest play therapy books, toys, games, and tools to support your work with children, adolescents, and families.
- **Reconnect with your community** through engaging receptions, interactive forums, and meaningful conversations with colleagues who share your commitment to the healing power of play.
- **Learn, laugh, and grow** alongside fellow play therapy professionals in a welcoming, energizing environment that encourages connection and inspiration.

Workshop Levels

Use the following criteria to select workshops commensurate with your training and experience level:

- **Introductory -** Workshops focus on essential knowledge and skills needed to responsibly practice play therapy, including topics such as ethics, theories, playroom setup, and selecting appropriate toys. Content is tailored for attendees with little to no background in play therapy.
- **Intermediate** - Designed for practicing play therapists who have solid play therapy foundational training and experience. Content is intended to expand and enhance attendees' existing knowledge and skills, building upon their foundational learning.
- **Advanced** - Designed for participants with 300 or more hours of play therapy training and experience. These workshops are intended to deepen attendees' expertise by building on their existing knowledge, skills, and professional experience in specialized content areas.
- **Intermediate Discussion Group** - Designed for practicing play therapists who have solid play therapy foundational training and experience. Discussion format will promote the exchange of ideas and active learning in a small group setting.
- **Advanced Discussion Group** - Designed for seasoned professionals who are credentialed play therapists (RPT™, RPT-S™, and SB-RPT™). Discussion format will promote the exchange of ideas and active learning in a small group setting.

Registrants may occasionally find some workshop content to be stressful. Concerns about content should be discussed with the applicable presenter(s).

Instructional Methodology

Instructional methodology may include didactic, audiovisual, demonstration, experiential exercises, case examples and small and large group discussions.

Schedule at a Glance

Monday, Oct. 12, 2026

TIME	OVERVIEW
4:00 pm – 7:00 pm	APT Registration Desk Open

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2026

7:30 am – 5:30 pm	APT Registration Desk Open
8:30 am – 4:45 pm	Workshops: Tu1 – Tu2
8:30 am – 12:00 pm	Workshops: Tu3 – Tu5
9:30 am – 5:30 pm	**Exhibit Hall Open**
1:15 pm – 4:45 pm	Workshops: Tu6 – Tu8

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2026

7:30 am – 6:30 pm	APT Registration Desk Open
8:00 am – 4:15 pm	Workshops: W1 – W3
8:00 am – 11:30 am	Workshops: W4 – W7 & DG1
8:30 am – 4:30 pm	*APT Board of Directors Meeting
9:00 am – 8:00 pm	**Exhibit Hall Open**
12:45 pm – 4:15 pm	Workshops: W8 – W11 & DG2
4:45 pm – 6:45 pm	Workshops: W12 – W17
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	**Welcome Reception & Foundation Fundraiser**

Thursday, Oct. 15, 2026

7:30 am – 6:45 pm	APT Registration Desk Open
8:00 am – 4:15 pm	Workshops: Th1 – Th4
8:00 am – 11:30 am	Workshops: Th5 – Th9 & DG3 – DG4
8:00 am – 11:30 am	*Branch Presidents Meeting
9:00 am – 5:30 pm	**Exhibit Hall Open**
12:45 pm – 4:15 pm	Workshops: Th10 – Th14 & DG5 – DG6
12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	*Foundation Board of Directors Meeting
4:45 pm – 6:45 pm	Workshops: Th15 – Th21

Friday, Oct. 16, 2026

TIME	OVERVIEW
7:30 am – 6:00 pm	APT Registration Desk Open
9:00 am – 5:30 pm	Exhibit Hall Open
8:00 am – 9:30 am	**General Session & Keynote: Then, Now, and Next: A Multi-Generational Perspective on the Play Therapist, Play Therapy Practice, and the Field of Play Therapy**
10:00 am – 6:00 pm	Workshops: F1 – F3
10:00 am – 12:30 pm	Workshops: F4 – F9 & DG7
12:45 pm – 2:30 pm	**Special Interest Group: Black Clinicians in Play Therapy**
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	**Poster Session**
2:30 pm – 6:00 pm	Workshops: F10 – F15 & DG8

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026

7:30 am – 6:00 pm	APT Registration Desk Open
9:00 am – 2:30 pm	Exhibit Hall Open
8:30 am – 9:30 am	**Awards of Excellence & Recognition Ceremony**
10:00 am – 5:30 pm	Workshops: S1 – S3
10:00 am – 12:30 pm	Workshops: S4 – S9 & DG9-DG10
2:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Workshops: S10 – S14 & DG11
7:30 pm – 10:00 pm	**APT After Party**

Sunday, Oct. 18, 2026

8:30 am – 5:00 pm	APT Registration Desk Open
9:00 am – 4:45 pm	Workshops: Su1 – Su2
9:00 am – 12:15 pm	Workshops: Su3 – Su4

Items in Bold are open to all registered attendees.
Items noted by asterisk (*) are by invitation only.

Tuesday, October 13

7:30 am - 5:30 pm **Registration Open**

8:30 am - 4:45 pm **Full Day Workshops $130 (6 CE hours)**

Tu-1 Being Well-Grounded: Humanistic Play Therapy Theories
Mary Bennett, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S &
Linda Homeyer, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S
Having an understanding of a variety of play therapy theories is critical. We will compare and contrast the primary concepts of: Child-Centered, Gestalt, and Adlerian theories. We will use these theories and learn to be theoretically consistent in case conceptualization and treatment planning in play therapy.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian | Child-Centered | Gestalt

Tu-2 Foundational Principles & Skills of Child-Centered Play Therapy: A Beginner's Workshop
Corie Schoeneberg, PhD, LPC, RPT-S
Designed for novice and emerging play therapists, this workshop introduces participants to the play therapy process and the Child-Centered play therapy model. Participants will gain understanding in the foundational principles of Child-Centered play therapy, learn and practice basic play therapy reflection skills, and leave ready to practically apply their learning with clients and continue building their knowledge.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered
Eligible for APA credit.

8:30 am - 12:00 pm **Half Day Workshops $65 (3 CE hours)**

Tu-3 Reflective Play Therapy Supervision Tools For Supervision's "Sticky Situations"
Marit Appeldoorn, MSW, LICSW, RPT-S &
Sara Ranssi, MSW, LICSW, RPT-S
Designed for current and aspiring supervisors, this workshop explores the Reflective Play Therapy Supervision (RFPTS) model as a framework for addressing five common challenges in play therapy supervision. Participants will learn and practice the 4 Ps—predictability, presence, play, and parallel process—through case examples, discussion, and experiential activities to strengthen supervisory confidence and effectiveness.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Supervision
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Prescriptive

Tu-4 Legal and Ethical Issues in Play Therapy with Abused/ Traumatized Children and Adolescents
Sueann Kenney-Noziska, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
This seminar will examine legal and ethical issues when using play therapy in clinical practice with abused and traumatized children and adolescents. Clinical competencies, informed consent, confidentiality, dual relationships, reporting suspected child maltreatment, and subpoenas will be explored. The importance of a proactive approach to addressing the complex interplay of legal and ethical issues in play therapy will be discussed.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding
Content Focus: Ethics
Theoretical Basis: Integrative

Tuesday, October 13
(continued)

Tu-5 From Seedling to Budding Play Therapist: Rooting Play Therapy Practice in Theory
Brittany Massengale Houin, PhD, LPC, RPT &
Kimberly Hagmann, MS, LPC-IT
What "grounds" you moment to moment in the playroom? Using the metaphor of growth from seedling to bud, this interactive workshop invites play therapists to explore intentional practice "rooted" in theory. Through reflection, expressive activities, case examples, and a clinician's developmental journey, participants will examine how personal experience and theoretical grounding serve as "nutrients" for intentional, theory-informed play therapy practice.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian | Child-Centered | Cognitive

1:15 pm - 4:45 pm Half Day Workshops $65 (3 CE hours)

Tu-6 When Caregivers Heal Too: Engaging Caregivers through Trauma-Informed Parenting Sessions
Dylann Lowery, PhD, LMFT, RPT &
Korinne Babel, PhD, LPC, RPT-S
This workshop examines trauma-informed parenting sessions integrated within trauma-focused play therapy. Grounded in neurobiology (Polyvagal Theory), Child-Centered, and Filial play therapy methods, participants will learn evidence-based strategies to engage caregivers in understanding their own trauma responses alongside children, promoting regulation, safety, and relational healing following trauma.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Trauma
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Child-Centered | Filial

Tu-7 Rainbow Road: Current Trends & Ethical Practice of Play Therapy with the LGBTQ+ Community
Kurt Oster, MSW, LICSW-S, RPT &
Steven Parks, MSW, LCSW-S, RPT-S
This advanced workshop examines current trends and ethical practices in play therapy with LGBTQ+ clients. Participants will explore the therapeutic power of play, apply Ecosystemic and Humanistic theories, and incorporate culturally responsive interventions. The focus is on ethical mandates, affirmative techniques, and future directions to provide inclusive, theory-based, and effective care for marginalized communities.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Ecosystemic | Humanistic / Relationship | Integrative

Tu-8 Rooted in Belonging: Group Play Therapy Through a Culturally Affirming Lens
Erica Tatum-Sheade, DSW, LCSW, RPT-S &
Althea Simpson, PhD, LCSW, RPT-S
This experiential workshop integrates Adlerian play therapy theory and Humanistic theoretical framework with culturally responsive group practice. Participants explore how social interest, encouragement, and belonging manifest across diverse cultural contexts. Through imaginative play, emotional storytelling, and expressive techniques, clinicians learn to facilitate group play therapy that honors children's cultural identities while addressing the mistaken goals of behavior and strengthening attachment.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Group
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian | Humanistic / Relationship

Wednesday, October 14

7:30 am - 6:30 pm **Registration Open**

8:00 am - 4:15 pm **Full Day Workshops $130 (6 CE hours)**

W-1 The Shadow in the Playroom: Jungian Analytical Play Therapy Theory, Symbol, and Practice
Jared Andes, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
This presentation introduces Jungian Analytical Play Therapy through its core theoretical foundations, symbolic processes, and clinical applications. Framed by the concept of the playroom as temenos, participants will examine the psyche as a map and explore how play and therapeutic relationships support meaning-making, psychological integration, and access to the therapeutic powers of play in work with children and adolescents.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): History | Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Jungian

W-2 So You're Just Playing? Communicating Progress to Parents Using Play Themes in CCPT
Ahou Line, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S
Parents often ask "so are you just playing in there?" This presentation helps Child Centered Play Therapists communicate progress by identifying and explaining play themes in ways parents can understand. Participants will learn practical strategies to identify play themes, conceptualize their clients, prepare for parent meetings, and effectively and confidently articulate progress to caregivers.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Treatment Planning
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered

W-3 Tell Me a Story...Mastering the Art of Storytelling in Play Therapy
Bob Nickles, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S &
Terry Kottman, PhD, LMHC, RPT-S
Storytelling and therapeutic metaphors create opportunities for indirect teaching, creative problem solving and resiliency in play therapy. In this workshop, we will have a blast playing with play therapy, drama therapy, and improv techniques for expanding your storytelling prowess. You will learn how to design and deliver engaging and therapeutic stories in play therapy sessions. No experience or talent required.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process, Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian

8:00 am - 11:30 am **Half Day Workshops $65 (3 CE hours)**

W-4 Understanding Self as a Play Therapist Wizard
John Burr, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
This interactive workshop invites play therapists to engage in a reflective and experiential exploration of the "self" within clinical practice. Drawing upon themes and imagery from the Harry Potter series as a symbolic and narrative framework, participants will examine core aspects of therapeutic presence, identity, and use of self in play therapy. Through guided activities and discussion, the workshop integrates the therapeutic powers of play with imaginative metaphor, supporting clinicians in deepening self-awareness, enhancing clinical attunement, and strengthening their therapeutic effectiveness.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Skills & Methods
Theoretical Basis: Person-Centered | Expressive Arts | Integrative

Wednesday, October 14
(continued)

W-5 Seeing What Children Cannot Say: Play-Based Diagnosis and Assessment
Heidi Kaduson, PhD, RPT-S
Seeing What Children Cannot Say explores play-based diagnosis and assessment as powerful tools for understanding children's inner worlds. Participants learn how toys, drawings, stories, and play themes reveal emotional, behavioral, and developmental concerns. Emphasis is placed on ethical assessment, differential diagnosis, and translating play observations into clear, clinically meaningful formulations that guide effective, developmentally responsive treatment planning for clinical practice.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Assessment
Theoretical Basis: Developmental | Integrative
Eligible for APA credit.

W-6 Innovations in Family Play Therapy
Liana Lowenstein, MSW, RSW
Learn innovative play therapy techniques, such as games, art, and storytelling, to engage, assess, and treat families, along with creative strategies for overcoming common challenges in family sessions. Through fun experiential exercises, participants will practice joining, identifying strengths, and using circular questions, leaving them more confident, skilled, and comfortable conducting effective and engaging family play therapy.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Family
Theoretical Basis: Family Systems | Prescriptive

W-7 Constructing Competent Supervision
Jeri Yingling, MS, LPC, RPT-S
This workshop introduces foundational concepts and practical models of play therapy supervision for clinicians who are new to supervision or considering becoming supervisors. Participants explore four supervision models, examine ethical, legal and logistical responsibilities, and engage in experiential activities that introduce playful supervision techniques, supporting reflective practice, confidence and readiness for ethical and intentional supervisory roles.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Supervision
Theoretical Basis: Developmental | Humanistic / Relationship | Integrative

DG-1 The Neurobiological Continuum of Care: An Important Tool in Play Therapy Supervision
Marit Appeldoorn, MSW, LICSW, RPT-S
Our play therapy supervisees can be vulnerable to high levels of overwhelm, vicarious trauma, and depletion. This workshop explores the Neurobiological Continuum of Care, which identifies distinct intervention categories designed to increase supervisees' regulation, confidence, and capacity. Presenter will facilitate collaborative discussion, and participants will learn targeted, playful, and reflective techniques which may be integrated into play therapy supervision.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Supervision
Theoretical Basis: Gestalt | Prescriptive | Reflective Play Therapy Supervision

Wednesday, October 14
(continued)

12:45 pm - 4:15 pm Half Day Workshops $65 (3 CE hours)

W-8 Ethics in Play Therapy Supervision – Issues and Challenges in a Changing World
Jeff Ashby, PhD, ABPP, RPT-S
This advanced workshop addresses the complex ethical issues that arise in play therapy supervision. Using case study, discussion, and lecture, we'll address ethical challenges endemic to the role of play therapy supervisor and the challenges of technology, crossing state lines, use of artificial intelligence and other relevant issues.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Ethics
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian | Child-Centered | Prescriptive
Eligible for APA credit.

W-9 Two Paths, One Purpose: Bridging Infant Play Therapy Models to Support Early Attachment
Janet Courtney, PhD, LCSW, RPT-S &
Janeece Warfield, PHD, RPT-S
This workshop will present FirstPlay® Therapy and the Baby and Me program that bridges infant mental health foundations and play therapy in their practices. In this experiential training, presenters will demonstrate infant play therapy activities which support the caregiver/infant dyadic relationship to foster attunement, co-regulation, and attachment.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Attachment
Theoretical Basis: Developmental

W-10 Whose Fight Is It Anyway? Building Resiliency Through Play Therapy for Children of Divorce
Mary Ruth Cross, MS, LMFT, RPT-S
Children impacted by high-conflict divorce often experience trauma bonding, loyalty binds, emotional dysregulation, and antagonistic relational stress. This play therapy training equips clinicians to identify these dynamics through a unique lens and apply prescriptive, trauma-informed, and antagonism-informed play therapy interventions to support resilience, identity development, and emotional safety.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Family
Theoretical Basis: Transtheoretical Model

W-11 Where Culture Meets Play: Culturally Resonant Interventions with Latine Families
Mariana Shively, MA, LPC, RPT-S &
Irene Bautista, MS, LPC, RPT
Reimagining culturally resonant games when working with Latine families strengthens therapeutic rapport and creates meaningful opportunities for identity exploration, intergenerational connection, and cultural validation. Grounded in Adlerian and attachment-based theories, this workshop provides clinicians practical family play therapy interventions that integrate cultural values, family roles, and relational dynamics to inform case conceptualization, intervention selection, and treatment outcomes.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian | Attachment

Wednesday, October 14
(continued)

DG-2 How's the Child Doing Now? Foster Care Alumni's Recollection of Play Therapy Experiences
Yumiko Ogawa, PhD, LPC, RPT-S;
Rebekah Byrd, PhD, LPC, RPT-S &
Christian Heasley, PhD, LPC, SB-RPT
This discussion group centers foster care alumni voices to explore the long-term impact of childhood play therapy. Using qualitative research findings, participants reflect on implications for play therapy practice, education, supervision, and advocacy through a Child-Centered Play Therapy lens. Guided by Play Therapy Competencies and Cultural and Social Diversity requirements, participants examine strengths and gaps in practice through discussion and reflection.
Level: Advanced Discussion Group
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity, Supervision
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered

4:45 pm - 6:45 pm Evening Workshops $65 (2 CE hours)

W-12 What About Me? Play Therapy with Siblings of Children with Disabilities and/or Diagnoses
Kristy Brumfield, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S &
Gerra Perkins, PhD, LPC-S, RPT
This workshop explores play therapy interventions for siblings of children with disabilities or diagnoses, a sometimes overlooked population in family systems. Grounded in Child-Centered and family play therapy principles, participants will examine developmental, relational, and emotional needs of siblings and engage in experiential strategies to support expression, regulation, and connection within play therapy practice.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Family
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered | Family Systems | Humanistic / Relationship

W-13 Playing with Cultural Intention: Inclusive, Ethical, and Responsive Play Therapy
Alicia Donovan, MA, LPC, RPT-S &
Kadesha Adelakun, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
Play is universal—but its meaning, expression, and interpretation are deeply shaped by culture. For play therapists, cultural awareness isn't optional; it's essential for building trust, honoring identity, and ensuring ethical practice. This experiential workshop invites you to examine how your own cultural lens influences the playroom and how power, privilege, and bias can impact therapeutic interactions.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Experiential | Humanistic / Relationship | Systemic

W-14 Play Therapy with Adopted and Fostered Children: Repairing Early Attachment Disruptions
Natalie Larson, MA, LPCC-S, RPT-S
This presentation highlights how play therapy promotes attachment repair for adopted and fostered children through developmentally informed, attachment-focused, and systemic interventions. Grounded in contemporary research and play therapy best practices, it previews directive, metaphor-based strategies addressing grief, loss, and relational safety to support felt security within adoptive and foster family systems.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Attachment
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Developmental | Family Systems
Eligible for APA credit.

Wednesday, October 14
(continued)

W-15 Pushing Play Themes Forward: Diversifying our Conceptualization Lens
Winnie Liu, PhD, LPC-A, &
Kaleb Thompson, PhD, LPC-A
Play themes provide a concise clinical framework for understanding and articulating the internal content children express through play, informing in-session responses, progress evaluation, and meaningful communication with caregivers. This engaging session invites play therapists to explore how collectivistic and individualistic values shape play and conceptualization through the use of culturally-informed play themes that reflect diverse worldviews and enhance intercultural understanding.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Interpretation
Theoretical Basis: Transtheoretical

W-16 Processing Deeper: Creative Techniques in Play Therapy Supervision
Corie Schoeneberg, PhD, LPC, RPT-S
Play therapy supervisors can discover how creative, theory-driven supervision can facilitate deeper growth and development in their supervisees. This experiential workshop offers supervisors with a variety of creative techniques grounded in the Integrated Developmental Model of Supervision and aligned with the play therapy competencies and therapeutic powers of play. Participants leave with practical techniques for targeted and creative supervision.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Supervision
Theoretical Basis: Integrated Developmental Model of Supervision
Eligible for APA credit.

W-17 Beyond Words: Neurodiversity-Affirming Play Therapy with Minimally Speaking Children
Sabrina Thakur, MS, LMFT, RPT-S &
Kelley Krueger, PhD
This presentation explores neurodiversity-affirming play therapy approaches for minimally speaking children with developmental disabilities. Participants will learn how to recognize and respond to nonverbal communication, adapt play therapy interventions beyond speech, and increase therapeutic access, engagement, and relational connection for children and their caregivers.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Humanistic / Relationship | Integrative

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm **Reception & Fundraiser**

Welcome Reception & Foundation for Play Therapy Fundraiser

Join us for an evening of connecting with fellow attendees, presenters, and exhibitors! Enjoy light refreshments as you mingle and take part in the Foundation for Play Therapy's Annual Basket Raffle. Support the Foundation and have a chance to take home a beautifully curated basket generously donated by APT state branches.

Raffle tickets will only be available onsite for a limited time at the APT Registration Desk and APT Store, Monday through Wednesday evening.

Thursday, October 15

7:30 am - 6:30 pm **Registration Open**

8:00 am - 4:15 pm **Full Day Workshops $130 (6 CE hours)**

Th-1 Social Navigation and Play Therapy: A Neurodiversity Affirming, Strengths Based Approach
Robert Grant, EdD, LPC, RPT-S
This workshop focuses on neurodivergent social navigation needs through a neurodiversity-affirming process using a strengths-based approach. Objectives will cover socially affirming play therapy theories and approaches. The history of non-affirming therapy practices will be examined, alongside the social model of disability and its implications for ethical care. This workshop will include case examples, reflective exercises, and experiential play therapy interventions.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Integrative | Prescriptive

Th-2 Facilitating Therapeutic Change in Play Therapy
Kevin O'Connor, PhD, RPT-S
No matter which theoretical approach play therapists use, their common goal is the facilitation of positive therapeutic change. The 'Therapeutic Powers of Play' describes some mechanisms through which change happens. In this workshop participants will first learn about additional change mechanisms (both play and therapy specific), they will then practice developing client specific, process oriented treatment plans, interventions and activities.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Ecosystemic | Integrative
Eligible for APA credit.

Th-3 Beyond the Worksheet: CBPT in Action
Lisa Remey, MEd, LPC-S, RPT-S
This interactive workshop brings Cognitive Behavioral Play Therapy to life in the playroom. Grounded in CBT theory, CBPT preserves core principles while using play to meet children's developmental needs. Through case examples and hands-on activities, participants explore facilitative responses, the CBPT session structure, and how cognitive, behavioral, and emotional skills are intentionally woven into directive and nondirective play.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Cognitive-Behavioral
Eligible for APA credit.

Th-4 30 Years of Play! Tantrums, Toys & Techniques
Scott Riviere, MS, LPC, RPT-S
Play can be hard work! Whether you're new to the field or an experienced practitioner, this workshop is for you. We will explore the transformation of Play and Play Therapy over the past 30 years while focusing on some of the best techniques for various conditions from different theoretical perspectives.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Prescriptive

Thursday, October 15
(continued)

8:00 am - 11:30 am Half Day Workshops $65 (3 CE hours)

Th-5 Help! How to Build my Play Therapy Toolbox?
Aseye Allah, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S &
Deisy Rangel, MSW, LCSW
This workshop will focus on providing the audience with clinical interventions in which to use while working with clients of various diagnoses. This is a hands-on workshop where participants will be able to practice and role play the play therapy interventions presented.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): History | Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Diagnosis
Theoretical Basis: Developmental | Experiential | Prescriptive

Th-6 My Lens: Exploring Personal Cultural & Social Diversity Through Play Therapy
Marla Berger, MS, LMHC, RPT-S
Exploring cultural and social diversity in the playroom requires us to understand our own lens through which we see and experience the world. This experiential workshop will take participants through play activities to better understand their own beliefs, biases and background. Participants will leave with a clearer lens to see themes, metaphors and culture expressed in their play therapy sessions.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian | Child-Centered | Integrative

Th-7 Beyond the Screen: AI, Ethics, and the Future of Clinical Play Therapy Practice
Rebeca Chow, PhD, LCPC, RPT-S
This workshop explores how AI is emerging in play therapy through an ethical and neurobiological lens. It examines key considerations such as bias, confidentiality, and client autonomy, while clarifying the role of AI chatbots as assistants and companions. Participants will gain practical, clinically grounded strategies for integrating these tools while preserving connection, safety, and therapeutic integrity.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Ethics
Theoretical Basis: Child Centered

Th-8 Ready, Set, Grow: Using Sandtray in Solution-Focused Play Therapy Supervision
Elizabeth Kjellstrand Hartwig, PhD, LMFT-S, RPT-S
Discover how sandtray can help supervisors cultivate reflective and strengths-based supervision experiences. Through experiential activities and practical strategies, participants will learn and practice four sandtray approaches that foster clinical insight, nurture supervisee growth, and bring new energy to supervision.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Supervision
Theoretical Basis: Solution-Focused Play Therapy

Thursday, October 15
(continued)

Th-9 Play Therapy Through a Neurosequential Lens
Kim Vander Dussen, PsyD, RPT-S
Participants will be exposed to the application of the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics to the conceptualization and application of play therapy. Participants will have the opportunity to experience interventions designed to target disorganization and dysregulation in different regions of the brain.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Attachment
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Developmental | Experiential
Eligible for APA credit.

DG-3 Cultural Implications of Play Therapy Practice in International Settings
Linda Homeyer, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S &
Sue Bratton, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S
This discussion group provides a setting for play therapists who practice, teach, or provide training internationally to share unique cultural implications of growing play therapy practice globally. We will share aftereffects of training in various international settings and how it is impacted by factors unique to each country.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Other

DG-4 From Sidekick to Superhero: Assessing Competence in Play Therapy Supervision
Tara Moser, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S &
Jodi Smith, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
This interactive discussion group emphasizes how supervisors make evaluative decisions, document competence, and support supervisees ethically and developmentally as they progress from novice to independent play therapist. Guided discussion and case-based reflection with a focus on superhero and pop-culture metaphors will be used to explore how supervisors assess competence across developmental stages, with a specific focus on RPT application readiness.
Level: Advanced Discussion Group
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Supervision
Theoretical Basis: Humanistic / Relationship | Prescriptive

12:45 pm - 4:15 pm Half Day Workshops $65 (3 CE hours)

Th-10 Reviving the Relationship: A Demonstration of Child-Parent Relationship Therapy (CPRT)
Nick Cornett, PhD, LPC, RPT
What is filial therapy and Child-Parent Relationship Therapy (CPRT)? Come see for yourself! In this workshop, participants will be provided with an overview of this historically significant approach to play therapy and will have the opportunity to see a live demonstration of session 1 of CPRT.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): History | Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Filial

Thursday, October 15
(continued)

Th-11 A Tale of Two Theories: Conceptualizing Play Sessions through Two Humanistic Models
Dalena Dillman Taylor, PhD, LMHC, RPT-S &
Leslie Jones, PhD, LPC, RPT-S
Grounded in their own theoretical approach, presenters will interactively conceptualize cases to model similarities and differences across two approaches. In this experiential session, participants will observe videos, live demonstrations, and activities of play therapy theories to gain a greater understanding of the nuances between Adlerian and Child-Centered Play Therapy.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian | Child-Centered

Th-12 Posttraumatic Play in Children: Challenges and Benefits
Eliana Gil, PhD, LMFT, RPT-S
This workshop will take an in-depth look at a unique form of play that children employ after enduring traumatic experiences. We will discuss the special characteristics of post-traumatic play as well as learn the differences between toxic and dynamic post-trauma play. The question of how and when to intervene in toxic play will be highlighted. Participants will have ample opportunities to identify post-traumatic play in children's clinical work and will become adept at understanding the underlying intent of this play, the importance of clinical witnessing, and emphasize the child's mastery skills.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Humanistic

Th-13 Play, Bond, Grow: A Beginner's Guide to Theraplay
Nancy Soliz, MS, LMFT, RPT-S
This introductory workshop explores the core principles and structure of Theraplay, a relationship-based play therapy model that promotes attachment, engagement, and regulation. Participants will learn the four Theraplay dimensions, view practical examples, and gain foundational skills for creating playful, connection-focused interactions with children and caregivers. Ideal for clinicians seeking a clear, accessible introduction to Theraplay practices.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Attachment
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Experiential | Family Systems

Th-14 Reflective Play Therapy Supervision: Helping Supervisees Deepen Awareness & Understanding
Anne Stewart, PhD, RPT-S &
Athena Drewes, PsyD, RPT-S
Reflective play therapy supervision creates a co-constructed and collaborative relationship between supervisee and supervisor. The reflective supervision process examines the supervisee's values, thoughts, and feelings about their play therapy clients. Reflective supervision enhances the supervisee's self-awareness and practice to become increasingly intentional, culturally attuned, and clinically relevant. Join us as we share research findings, offer experiential activities, and case discussion.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Supervision
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Developmental | Transtheoretical
Eligible for APA credit.

Thursday, October 15
(continued)

DG-5 No Longer a Newbie: Meeting the Needs of the Registered Play Therapist Supervisor
Gloria Cockerill, MA, LCSW, RPT-S &
Rebekah Byrd, PhD, LCMHC, RPT-S
As play therapists develop it can be challenging to find training appropriate to match the developmental level of the practitioner. This advanced discussion group will explore the training, self-care and ongoing supervision and consultation needs of the Registered Play Therapist Supervisor.
Level: Advanced Discussion Group
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Other
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian | Attachment | Child-Centered

DG-6 Echoes in the Playroom: Navigating Countertransference in Play Therapy
Sarah Stroup, MA, LMFT, RPT-S &
Maggi Leavitt, MA, LMFT, RPT-S
A play therapist's emotional presence is vital, but it's tough when a child's story hits home. Join us to move beyond textbooks and explore countertransference through the lens of a play therapist. We'll share practical ways to spot triggers, identify emotions, and prevent burnout. Use reflective discussion to deepen self-awareness and strengthen therapeutic bonds without compromising boundaries.
Level: Intermediate Discussion Group
Primary Area(s): Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Ethics
Theoretical Basis: Integrative

4:45 pm - 6:45 pm Evening Workshops $65 (2 CE hours)

Th-15 What About Us: Play Therapy Interventions for Non-Abused Siblings of Sexual Abuse Victims
Diana Garza Louis, MEd, LPC-S, RPT-S
Sexual abuse disclosure has a profound impact on the siblings' relationship in a family. Many siblings may exhibit anxiety, sadness, or depression following disclosure of abuse, but their trauma is seldom addressed. This presentation will review play therapy interventions with non-abused siblings of sexual abuse to facilitate healing and well-being for these clients.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Trauma
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered | Family Systems | Prescriptive

Th-16 So You're a School-Based Play Therapist. Now What?
Palmer Gudmundson, EdS, LPC, &
Jessie Guest, PhD, LCMHC-S, RPT-S
We will explore play therapy strategies within the school system, with an emphasis on building collaborative partnerships with key school personnel. This includes effectively communicating roles and clearly articulating how play therapy supports students' social, emotional, and academic success. We also address common barriers encountered in school-based settings and offer practical strategies for delivering play therapy in non-traditional playroom environments.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: School-Based Play Therapy
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered

Thursday, October 15
(continued)

Th-17 Tiny Figures, Big Insights: Gestalt/Oaklander Model in Play Therapy
Lisa Parsons, MEd, LPCC-S, RPT-S
Discover the transformative power of miniatures via the Gestalt Play Therapy/Oaklander model. Equip yourself with practical techniques to explore family dynamics, polarities, and self-perception. Learn play therapy approaches to help clients externalize thoughts and feelings, creating insights words alone cannot access. Experience how making figures "come to life" unlocks significant breakthroughs with clients of all ages.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Gestalt

Th-18 Advancing Play Therapy into the Next Century through Psychophysiological Measures
Kristi Perryman, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S &
Richard Gaskill, EdD, LCPC, RPT-S
This presentation will trace the roots of the play therapy profession, review seminal theories and their current evidence base, identifying parallels to the medical field and scientific advances. Specific recommendations for future research will be made for scientific measures to propel the play therapy profession into the next century.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): History | Seminal or Historically Significant Theories
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Play Therapy Research
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian | Child-Centered | Cognitive-Behavioral

Th-19 Stop, Think, Play! Executive Function Games for ADHD
Brittany Reynolds, MA, LMFT, &
Haley Todd, MSW, LCSW, RPT
This 2-hour training teaches play therapy interventions for children with ADHD that strengthen executive functioning. Using evidence-informed, directive play therapy methods, participants practice structured games targeting inhibition, working memory, cognitive flexibility, planning/organization, task initiation, sustained attention, self-monitoring, and emotional control—plus therapeutic limit-setting and reinforcement to improve follow-through. Attendees leave with a "toolkit" of games, scripts, and "next session" ideas.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Cognitive-Behavioral | Experiential | Prescriptive

Th-20 Bridging the Gap: The LIGHT Method in Play Therapy for Neurodivergent Children
Sivan Sarig, MA, &
Suzi Kagan, PhD
This two-hour workshop introduces the LIGHT Method, a neurodiversity-affirming, play therapy–informed method designed to help clinicians translate the relational stance of Child-Centered Play Therapy into real-world caregiver guidance. Participants will learn to recognize sensory overload, emotional distress, relational rupture, and layered dysregulation in neurodivergent children, and to coach parents and educators in the use of reflective, declarative language that supports regulation and relational safety across home and school settings.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Neurodiversity, Caregiver/Parent/Educator
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Child-Centered | Humanistic/Relationship

Thursday, October 15
(continued)

Th-21 Choosing How to Be in the Playroom: Prescriptive Play Therapy and Cheston's Ways of Being
Kate Worley, PhD, LPC, RPT &
Kathy Richardson, PhD, LPC, RPT-S
An eclectic approach is commonly used in play therapy; however, effective integration requires a strong theoretical foundation which can be difficult for beginning therapists. This presentation will cover a well-known approach to play therapy, prescriptive play therapy, and a tool for providing structure to the prescriptive approach through Cheston's Ways Paradigm.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Prescriptive

Friday, October 16

7:30 am - 6:00 pm Registration Open

8:00 am - 9:30 am General Session & Keynote (1 CE hour)

Keynote

Anne Stewart, PhD, RPT-S;

Rebeca Chow, PhD, LPC, RPT-S

Ahou Line, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S

Sueann Kenney-Noziska, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S

Then, Now, and Next: A Multi-Generational Perspective on the Play Therapist, Play Therapy Practice, and the Field of Play Therapy
Anne Stewart, PhD, RPT-S;
Rebeca Chow, PhD, LPC, RPT-S &
Ahou Line, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S
Moderated by **Sueann Kenney-Noziska,** MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
We have more generational diversity among play therapists than ever before. This keynote draws from this diversity to explore where we've been, where we are, and what is coming next for the play therapy professional and the field of play therapy. Panelists representing different stages of career and life will provide insight and perspectives on professional development and how the field of play therapy has evolved. They will explore balancing therapeutic ideals with real-world constraints, professional growth while managing clinical challenges, and growing and adapting with sustainability and mental well-being. Honoring play therapy's generational diversity will be heard, respected, and valued.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topic | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity

10:00 am - 6:00 pm Full Day Workshops $130 (5.5 CE hours)

F-1 Creativity in Adlerian Play Therapy Supervision: Applying the Integrated Developmental Model
Jeff Ashby, PhD, ABPP, RPT-S &
Nikole Pauli, MA, LMHC, RPT-S
In this workshop, we will explore creative ways to apply Adlerian principles (e.g., Crucial Cs, personality priorities) to your play therapy supervision/consultation. Using the Integrated Developmental Model of Supervision, we'll practice using Adlerian principles to meet supervisee's developmental needs and hone their play therapy competence.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Supervision
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian
Eligible for APA credit.

F-2 Filial Therapy: Engaging Parents in Children's Healing Process Through Fostering Secure Attachment
Sue Bratton, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S
Filial therapy is a culturally-responsive play therapy intervention that engages parents in their child's healing process through empowering parents with CCPT skills that foster a secure, attuned parent-child attachment. Filia therapy nuts and bolts will be detailed through an exploration of the evidence-based CPRT filial therapy model revealing a strong therapeutic and empirical rationale for therapists to utilize this approach
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Filial | Child-Centered

Friday, October 16
(continued)

F-3 Rupture and Repair in TraumaPlay™: Attachment, Attunement, and Acceptance
Paris Goodyear-Brown, PhD, LCSW, RPT-S
Effective treatment of Attachment Trauma (AT) requires deep understanding of rupture and repair. Play therapy provides a developmentally sensitive medium for playful exploration of these processes and playful practice of attachment repair. Participants will leave with a framework for decision-making with families and more than twenty TraumaPlay™ interventions that facilitate repair and promote parental paradigm shifts. Come prepared to play.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Special Topics | Cultural and Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Attachment
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Integrative

10:00 am - 12:30 pm Half-Day Workshops $65 (2.5 CE hours)

F-4 "Shake It Off": Play Therapy and Somatic Movement
Sarah Bargar, MSW, LCSW, RPT &
Holly Willard, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
This workshop will explore a somatic play therapy approach combining directive and non-directive techniques with Trauma-Informed Yoga practices. The workshop focuses on the bottom-up trauma processing approach, addressing the nervous system and the importance of somatic movement. The workshop will demonstrate how to incorporate yoga into play therapy interventions to support clients and families in processing and healing from trauma.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Trauma
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered | Experiential | Somatic Psychotherapy

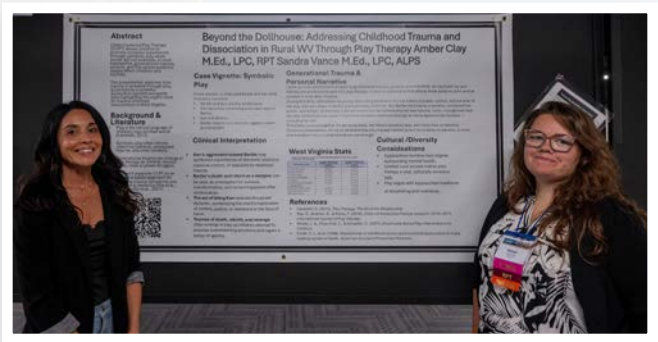
F-5 Culturally Responsive Play Therapy with Children & Families Impacted by ICE Presence
April Duncan, DSW, LCSW, RPT-S
Children from marginalized communities are experiencing increased trauma related to ICE presence. This workshop explores play therapy and play-based interventions, including Child-Centered and Cognitive Behavioral Play Therapy, to support children and caregivers navigating immigration-related stress, loss, and separation. Participants will gain culturally responsive strategies to foster safety, resilience, and healing while reflecting on power, privilege, and bias in therapeutic spaces.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered | Cognitive-Behavioral | Systemic

F-6 Narrative Child-Centered Play Therapy: Expanding Possibility Through Story and Play
Lisa Forbes, PhD, LPC, RPT
This training describes Narrative Child-Centered Play Therapy, which is an approach that honors play as a lived, embodied storytelling process rather than using narrative as a tool for structuring or guiding change. You will learn to listen for story in play, notice tensions and repetitions, recognize cracks where new possibilities can emerge, and support children as their stories expand without rushing, directing, or fixing.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered | Narrative Therapy

Friday, October 16
(continued)

F-7 Incorporating Play Therapy as Both a Prevention and Intervention Tool in the School Setting
Dana Holtz, EdS, LPC, RPT-S
In schools across the country social-emotional needs manifest as academic and behavioral concerns. Discover creative, school-based ways to use play therapy as both prevention and intervention through imaginative and dynamic groups that spark connection, build skills, and support student's growth.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: School-Based Play Therapy
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian

F-8 Overcoming Barriers: Play Interventions to Promote Resiliency in Low SES Families
Gloria Juliao, EdS, LPC, RPT-S &
Annie Stewart, MS, LPC, RPT
Families experiencing low socioeconomic status (SES) frequently navigate complex stressors that are often underrepresented in the Play Therapy community. This workshop navigates the unique challenges and strengths of working with low-SES families through an attachment and Filial-focused play therapy lens. Participants will explore developmentally responsive play therapy interventions designed to strengthen connection, promote healing, and foster resilient families.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Filial



F-9 Just a Spoonful of Playfulness: Timing, Titration, and Therapeutic Potency in Play Therapy
Mary Anne Peabody, EdD, LCSW, RPT-S &
Sonia Murray, MSW, RSW
This Mary Poppins inspired workshop goes beyond play-based techniques to emphasize playfulness as a core clinical stance. Participants will review research, refine their 'therapeutic use of self', and sharpen clinical judgment in response to clients' needs and relational safety. We explore timing and titration decisions across relevant play therapy theories to help therapists use playfulness more intentionally and confidently.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian | Child-Centered | Prescriptive

DG-7 The Duality of Mothers: Examining the Roles of Mother and Play Therapist
Maggie Parker, PhD, LPC, RPT-S;
Kara Holt, PhD, LPC, RPT-S &
Courtney Glickman, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S
An overwhelming majority of play therapists are women, and many become mothers while providing play therapy services. Despite this reality, few programs or trainings explore how to approach these two roles- either as a play therapist or a supervisor. We examine the dual roles that inform practice and key considerations.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Other
Theoretical Basis: Humanistic/Relationship

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm **Poster Session**

Explore thought-provoking poster presentations showcasing the latest research, insights, and innovations in play therapy. This is a perfect opportunity to engage with presenters, ask questions, and gain fresh perspectives in an interactive and inspiring setting.

Friday, October 16
(continued)

2:30 pm - 6:00 pm **Half Day Workshops $65 (3 CE hours)**

F-10 Beyond Twinkle Twinkle: Boost Your Attachment Focused Play Therapy (Theraplay®) Practice
Gloria Cockerill, MA, LCSW, RPT-S
This presentation is for play therapists actively engaged in Theraplay® practice seeking a deeper understanding of the dimensions, treatment and session planning, as well as the application of theory and research to the development of new dyadic and group activities beyond the basics.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Attachment
Theoretical Basis: Attachment

F-11 Leading with Connection: Play Therapy Supervision that Supports Gen Z
Parie Faridnia, PsyD, RPT-S &
Nicole Chavez, PsyD, RPT-S
As Gen Z becomes the primary generation in need of supervision, strengthening connection with them is essential for improving engagement and supporting their growth as emerging play therapists. Participants will learn practical strategies for integrating relational, culturally attuned, and play therapy specific methods into supervision to create inclusive and developmentally supportive training environments.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Supervision
Theoretical Basis: Experiential | Humanistic/Relationship
Eligible for APA credit.

F-12 The History of Play and Play Therapy
Julie Nash, PhD, RPT-S
The histories of play and play therapy are rich with stories and knowledge of how the field as a whole has developed. Learn how the importance of free play has changed across cultural groups throughout history and a timeline of the development of play therapy, including theories, approaches, and settings.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): History
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding
Content Focus: Other
Theoretical Basis: Neutral
Eligible for APA credit.

F-13 Books + Play = Easy as ABC!
Danielle Newkam, PsyD, RPT-S &
Megan Fiore, PsyD, RPT-S
Come learn about an alphabet amount of books as we present at least twenty-six books and tailored play-based interventions! This workshop will lead participants through a range of bibliotherapy and related play therapy interventions, in an experiential and playful way!
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Other
Theoretical Basis: Developmental | Integrative | Prescriptive

F-14 Beyond the Board: Using Board Games in Adlerian Play Therapy
Neal Petersen, MS, LPCC, RPT-S
Come to this fun presentation and learn about using tabletop games in play therapy to build relationships with clients; explore interpersonal dynamics; help clients gain insight into maladaptive patterns; and work with them on social skills, anger management, and organization.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian

Friday, October 16
(continued)

F-15 Black Joy: Supporting and Empowering Black Children in Play Therapy
LaKaavia Taylor, PhD, LPC, RPT
This workshop provides culturally congruent skills for supporting Black children in play therapy. Through experiential activities, discussions, and video demonstrations, participants will explore how sociopolitical experiences impact play therapy for Black children. Grounded in humanistic frameworks, the workshop offers strategies for identifying cultural play themes, using research-informed method, and implementing interventions that empower and support Black children in play therapy.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Humanistic / Relationship

DG-8 Play Therapy Supervisors Holding Things: Deepening the Supervisory Relationship
Clair Mellenthin, PhD, LCSW, RPT-S &
Anne Stewart, PhD, RPT-S
Supervision is more than skill-building—it is a relational container. Participants will explore the complexity of supervision through the many things supervisors "hold," literally and metaphorically, using words and drawings. This experiential process highlights how parallel process, power dynamics, and culture emerge in supervisory relationships and how these themes can be intentionally engaged.
Level: Advanced Discussion Group
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Supervision
Theoretical Basis: Attachment

Saturday, October 17

7:30 am - 6:00 pm **Registration Open**

8:30 am - 9:30 am **Awards of Excellence & Recognition Ceremony**

Join us for an inspiring general session as we recognize our 2026 Awards of Excellence recipients, along with the contributions of our Committees and APT State Branches. We will also acknowledge the service of our incoming and outgoing Board members as we celebrate the dedication shaping the play therapy community.

10:00 am - 5:30 pm **Full Day Workshop $130 (5.5 CE hours)**

S-1 Play Therapy with Traumatized Children and Families: Back to the Future
Richard Gaskill, EdD, LCPC, RPT-S &
Jeanne Brown, MS, LCP, RPT-S
Play therapy has many theoretical models. These works have generally proven effective but are often difficult to compare and adapt to evolving traumatology. Neuroscience offers play therapists unifying principles that illuminate theoretical commonalities and guide trauma treatment and improve outcomes.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Special Topics | Cultural and Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Diagnosis
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered | Cognitive-Behavioral | Integrative

S-2 Utilizing Play Therapy with Children and Families to Promote Connection and Positive Change
Eliana Gil, PhD, LMFT, RPT-S
Come learn and practice how to engage families utilizing play therapy invitations that include the use of symbols and metaphors, physical movement, novel relational interactions, pretend play, as well as the intentional use o laughter and humor. We will explore engaging families as well as couples, who are often neglected in the application of play therapy for assessment, communication, and treatment.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process, Attachment, Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Family Systems

S-3 Finding and Keeping Your Just-Right Place: Body and Mind Regulation in Play Therapy
Cary M. Hamilton, MA, LMHC, RPT-S
Learn to stay regulated when play therapy becomes dysregulated. This dual-focus training provides evidence based clinical skills for managing intense play (limit-setting, co-regulation, reflections) alongside innovative selfcare strategies that apply the therapeutic powers of play and sensory processing to support therapist sustainability and prevent burnout.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered | Gestalt | Integrative

Saturday, October 17
(continued)

10:00 am - 12:30 pm Half Day Workshops $65 2.5 CE hours)

S-4 Trauma, Attachment, and the Brain: Play Therapy Strategies for Regulation and Connection
Aseye Allah, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S &
Joseph De Luna, PsyD, RPT
Childhood trauma disrupts brain development, affecting emotions, behavior, and relationships. This training focuses on play therapy, guided by the neurosequential model, to heal trauma through sensory tools and attachment-building activities. It highlights play's therapeutic power to restore safety, connection, and resilience, addressing trauma at every level of brain organization.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Trauma
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Humanistic/Relationship | Neurobiological

S-5 Illuminating Child Perspectives and Fostering Parent Partnerships in Digital Play
Rachel Altvater, PsyD, RPT-S &
Victoria Kennedy-Adkins, PsyD
This training enhances clinicians' ability to understand the perspectives of digital native children, empowering them to communicate these insights effectively to caregivers. By fostering parent collaboration, play therapists will be better equipped to bridge the gap between children's digital experiences and parent understanding, ultimately strengthening connections and enhancing play therapy treatment goals.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Other
Theoretical Basis: Humanistic/Relationship
Eligible for APA credit.

S-6 S.O.S. - Supporting Our Schools with Adlerian Play Therapy
Kristi Gallego, EdS, LPC, SB-RPT &
Danielle Neely, MMFT, LMFT
Discover how School-Based Adlerian Play Therapy transforms student support through a developmentally responsive, education-aligned approach. This engaging workshop integrates the history of school-based play therapy, Adlerian principles, legal and ethical frameworks, the Therapeutic Powers of Play linked to educational goals, collaborative student support planning, adaptations for special populations, and strategies for gaining meaningful buy-in from educational stakeholders.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): History | Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: School-Based Play Therapy
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian

S-7 Guardians of Play: Tech-Smart Protection for Children in Play Therapy
Kimberly King, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S &
LeAnne Steen, PhD
The following presentation will discuss specific themes and play behaviors in play therapy that may indicate a child's dangerous use of technology. These themes were gathered from an extensive questionnaire sent to APT members. Play therapists will be able to identify strategies for addressing therapeutic themes that emerge during sessions. Resources to support parents will also be provided.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Trauma
Theoretical Basis: Humanistic/Relationship

Saturday, October 17
(continued)

S-8 The Courage to Turn Inward: Sandtray Play and Internal Reflection for Therapist Renewal
Stefani Misiph, MA, LMHC, RPT-S
This experiential workshop invites play therapists into a safe, reflective space to renew internal resources through symbolic play in sandtray play therapy, enhanced by IFS-informed reflection. Guided metaphoric play and processing strengthen self-awareness, emotional regulation, and therapeutic presence. Participants leave refreshed, grounded, and better able to sustain ethical, attuned play therapy practice.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Integrative

S-9 Enhancing Therapeutic Relationships: Increasing Play Therapists' Cultural Humility
Phyllis Post, PhD, LCMHSC, RPT &
Peggy Ceballos, PhD, LPC-A
This workshop seeks to expand play therapists' cultural self-awareness and humility through expressive art activities and in-depth discussions. The audience will reflect on how understanding cultural dynamics deepen the delivery of the core conditions in their relationship with clients.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Cultural & Social Diversity
Theoretical Basis: Humanistic / Relationship

DG-9 The Role of Parental Accommodation in Play Therapy with Anxious Children
Mandi Melendez, MA, LMFT-S, RPT-S
Parental accommodation plays a key role in maintaining childhood anxiety by reinforcing avoidance, despite caregivers' good intentions. Research shows that reducing accommodation is a critical mechanism of change. This discussion group explores how Child-Centered Play Therapy and parent consultation can identify and address accommodation through developmentally responsive, relational, and play-based interventions that support coping, exposure, and emotional mastery.
Level: Intermediate Discussion Group
Primary Area(s): Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Family
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered | Family Systems

DG-10 Running Effective CPRT Groups: Practical Strategies from Start to Finish
Amy Work, MA, LCMHC-QS, RPT-S &
Kristie Opiola, PhD, LCMHC-QS, RPT
Many play therapists are bought into the model of Child-Parent Relationship Therapy (CPRT), yet hesitate to run groups because the logistics feel overwhelming. This discussion-based training breaks CPRT groups into doable steps. Learn practical strategies for gaining parent buy-in, structuring and leading effective group sessions, and addressing common barriers. Leave with tools to launch your next CPRT group confidently!
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Family
Theoretical Basis: Child-Centered | Family Systems

Saturday, October 17
(continued)

2:00 pm - 5:30 pm Half-Day Workshops $65 (3 CE hours)

S-10 Playful Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: Healing Children through Play Therapy
Angela Cavett, PhD, RPT-S
Integrate your passion for play therapy with research supported treatment. Playful Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Play Therapy (TFCBT) has strong empirical support for treating trauma. This workshop will provide a foundation for how to implement play therapy and TFCBT with interventions across each of the practice components.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Trauma
Theoretical Basis: Cognitive-Behavioral | Experiential | Prescriptive

S-11 Countertransference, Consciousness, and Curated Congruence in the Playroom
Paris Goodyear-Brown, PhD, LCSW, RPT-S
What does it mean to bring our authentic self to the playroom? Is it possible that bringing our whole authentic self to the playroom could be detrimental to the play therapy client? How do we decide on a moment-to-moment basis which clinical conditions are helped and hindered by the play therapist's authenticity? Come prepared to play with these curiosities.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Humanistic/Relationship | Integrative

S-12 Sharing Play Therapy Tools with Parents, Adlerian Style
Terry Kottman, PhD, LMHC, RPT-S &
Nikole Pauli, MA, LMHC, RPT-S
In this engaging and interactive workshop, you will learn how to teach parents an active method of playing with their children as a vehicle for building connection and communication. This workshop will give you strategies for helping parents master nondirective play skills and Adlerian play therapy tools such as scaffolding, encouragement, Crucial Cs, temperament, goals of misbehavior, and family atmosphere.
Level: Advanced
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Special Topics | Cultural and Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Family
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian

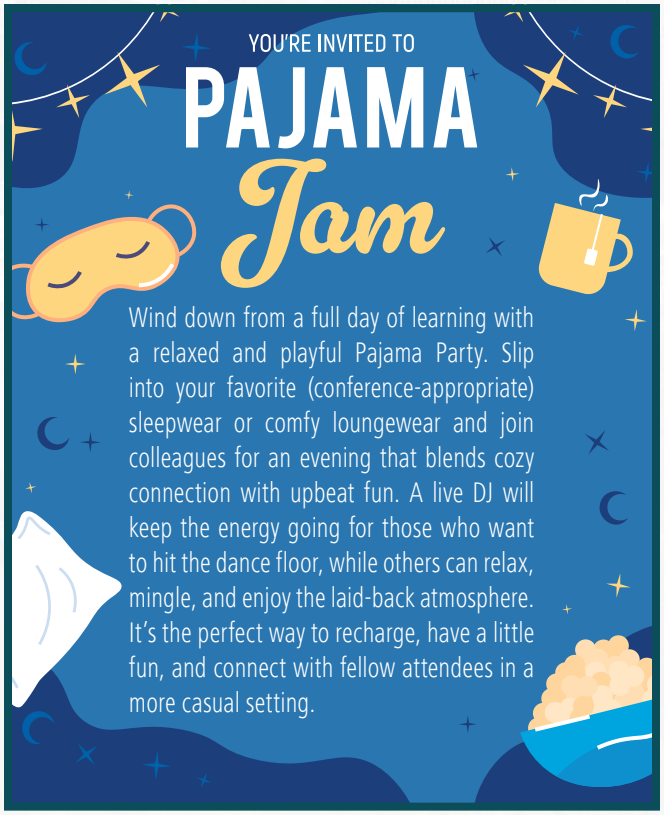
Saturday, October 17
(continued)

S-13 Let's Get Ethical: Considerations for Play Therapists in Child Sexual Abuse Cases
Leigh Ellen Magness, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
Clients presenting with sexual abuse allegations are among the most clinically complex, yet therapists are often expected to provide services without specialized training or supervision. Discover best practices and ethical considerations for therapists providing play therapy to children with sexual abuse histories, including working with other professionals to clarify roles, educate, or testify to the efficacy of play therapy treatment.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Ethics
Theoretical Basis: Ecosystemic

S-14 Stuck in the Middle: Clinical Play Therapy in High-Conflict Divorce & Violence
Cathi Spooner, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S &
Ann Ordway, PhD, JD
High-conflict divorce and intimate partner violence create complex clinical and ethical challenges for play therapists. This interactive play therapy workshop offers a clear, culturally responsive clinical framework for working with children in these family systems, while providing strategies for navigating ethical complexities and effectively interacting with legal professionals, grounded in best practice guidelines.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics | Cultural & Social Diversity
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement

DG-11 Ethics in Play Therapy: A Creative and Practical Approach
Nancy Soliz, MS, LMFT, RPT-S
This workshop explores the five core moral principles of ethics with play therapy through engaging case vignettes and practical discussion. Participants will examine real-world dilemmas, apply ethical reasoning, and reflect on decision-making in clinical practice. The session also emphasizes self-care strategies to support therapists in maintaining ethical integrity, professional boundaries, and personal well-being while working with children and families.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Ethics
Theoretical Basis: Family Systems | Humanistic/Relationship | Prescriptive

7:30 pm – 10:00 pm **APT After-Party**



Sunday, October 18

8:30 am - 5:00pm **Registration Open**

9:00 am - 4:45 pm **Full Day Workshops $130 (6 CE hours)**

Su-1 Parts at Play: Gestalt Play Therapy for the Fractured Self in Dissociation
Ann Beckley-Forest, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S &
Annie Monaco, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
Children with complex trauma histories and repeated treatment failures often have unrecognized dissociative symptoms causing the disturbance. This experiential workshop combines Gestalt play therapy and sandtray with dissociation theory to treat children with a fragmented sense of self.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods | Special Topics
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Trauma
Theoretical Basis: Gestalt | Integrative | Prescriptive

Su-2 Fundamentals of Adlerian Play Therapy
Neal Petersen, MS, LPCC, RPT-S &
Erica Wassenaar, MS, LMHC, RPT-S
In this fun, interactive workshop, participants will explore the concepts, skills, and strategies of Adlerian play therapy, a seminal approach to therapeutic work with children, parents, and teachers that integrates the ideas of Individual Psychology with play therapy.
Level: Introductory
Primary Area(s): Seminal or Historically Significant Theories | Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Adlerian

9:00 am – 12:15 pm **Half Day Workshops $65 (3 CE hours)**

Su-3 When Play Therapists Need Play: Using Play Therapy for Burnout and Vicarious Trauma
Clair Mellenthin, PhD, LCSW, RPT-S &
Holly Willard, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S
Play therapists hold immense emotional weight when working with children and families in crisis—and sometimes need permission to stop, pause, and breathe. This experiential workshop invites participants to pause, play, and restore through humanistic, attachment-informed practices. Using reflection, mindfulness, expressive arts, and play-based interventions, attendees will renew resilience, strengthen professional identity, and sustain ethical heart-centered play therapy practice.
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills | Professional Engagement
Content Focus: Trauma
Theoretical Basis: Attachment | Experiential | Humanistic/Relationship

Su-4 Play Therapy ROCKS!
Jodi Smith, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S &
Mary Hoon, MS, LMFT, RPT
This workshop introduces play therapists to play-based music interventions that can be integrated into clinica work with children and families. Participants will learn how musical elements—lyrics, rhythm, melody, tempo, improvisation, and instrument play—can enhance emotional expression, regulation, trauma processing, parent– child connection, and engagement for children and teens with diverse needs. No musical experience or skil needed!
Level: Intermediate
Primary Area(s): Skills & Methods
Play Therapy Competencies Addressed: Knowledge & Understanding | Clinical Skills
Content Focus: Theory/Process
Theoretical Basis: Humanistic/Relationship | Integrative | Prescriptive

Continuing Education

The APT Conference is co-sponsored by The Association for Play Therapy (APT) and The Institute for Continuing Education. Continuing education credit and certificates of attendance are offered as listed. Continuing education credit is awarded on a session-by-session basis, with full attendance required for each session attended. The continuing education (CE) processing fee is $30.00 per person ($40 onsite). The Conference offers a total of 40 contact hours. Individuals who wish to receive continuing education (CE) credit must be registered as a conference attendee and purchase a CE certificate either during registration or prior to departing the conference. To receive CE credit, attendees must complete all required CE materials, sign in and out daily, complete an evaluation for each session attended, and submit a completed CE application before departing the conference.

- Verification of continuing education contact hours earned at the Conference are mailed to attendees following the Conference.
- Attendees are responsible for reporting continuing education credit hours to their respective boards.
- APT does not provide attendance certificates separate from the official one that will be issued from the Institute for Continuing Education.
- Only mental health professionals or graduate students in a mental health field are eligible to receive CE credit.

Questions: If you have any questions regarding continuing education credit, the program, presenters, learning objectives by session, please contact The Institute for Continuing Education at: 800-557-1950 / e-mail: instconted@aol.com.

Learning Objectives: Session learning objectives are posted on the APT Conference website.

Commercial Support: The Institute for Continuing Education does not receive funds from any commercial organization for financial support of its activities in providing continuing education credit or for the sponsorship thereof. The Institute for Continuing Education's sponsorship of this Conference does not imply endorsement of featured exhibits.

Play Therapy: The Institute for Continuing Education is approved by The Association for Play Therapy to sponsor continuing education specific to play therapy. The Institute maintains responsibility for the program. APT Approved Provider 98-040.

Counseling: For counselors seeking continuing education credit, The Institute for Continuing Education will submit a co-sponsorship application to NBCC for this program. The APT website will be updated regarding approval.
New York: The Institute for Continuing Education is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Mental Health Practitioners as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed mental health counselors. Provider MHC-0016.

Social Work: Application for social work continuing education has been submitted to NASW-MA CE Approving Program. The APT website will be updated regarding approval.
New York: The Institute for Continuing Education is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers, Provided SW-0025.
Illinois: Illinois Dept Professional Regulation, Provider 159-000606.

Marriage-Family Therapy
California: The Institute for Continuing Education, provider 56590, is approved by the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists to sponsor continuing education for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs. The Institute for Continuing Education maintains responsibility for this program and its content. This program meets the qualifications for continuing education credit for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs, as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences.
Illinois: Illinois Dept. Professional Regulation, Provider 168-000108.
Minnesota: Application will be submitted to MN Board MFT for approval of this program.

New York: The Institute for Continuing Education is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Marriage and Family Therapists as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed marriage-family therapists, Provider MHC-0012.

Psychology: The Association for Play Therapy (APT) is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Association for Play Therapy maintains responsibility for this program and its content. **A limited number of workshops are being offered for APA credit. Tu-2, W-5, W-8, W-14, W-16, Th-2, Th-3, Th-9, Th-14, F-1, F-11, F-12, S-5.**

New York: The Institute for Continuing Education for Continuing Education is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Psychology as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed psychologists, Provider PSY-0043. **A limited number of workshops will be offered for New York psychologists. Tu-2, W-5, W-8, W-14, W-16, Th-2, Th-3, Th-9, Th-14, F-1, F-11, F-12, S-5.**

Non-U.S. Professionals: The Institute for Continuing Education holds no CE provider status with non-U.S. licensing/certification boards (including Canada). It is the attendee's responsibility to be aware of the regulations of licensing/certification boards outside the U.S. to determine CE requirements for training activities.

Ethics sessions: Participants are responsible for checking with their state regulatory board to determine if workshops containing "ethics content" meets the regulations of their State Board for the awarding of "ethics credit hours."

Non-Credit Events: Continuing education credit is not offered for breakfast, luncheon, reception, dinner events, poster sessions, board meetings, annual meetings, committee meetings, forums, networking sessions, or tour activities. If you have questions, contact The Institute for Continuing Education at the number listed above.

Instructional Methodology: Instructional methodology may include didactic, audiovisuals, demonstrations, experiential exercises, case examples, small and large group discussions.

Continuing Education Contact Hours Offered by Day:

Tuesday, October 13	6.00 hours
Wednesday, October 14	8.00 hours (includes evening workshops)
Thursday, October 15	8.00 hours (includes evening workshops)
Friday, October 16	6.50 hours
Saturday, October 17	5.50 hours
Sunday, October 18	6.00 hours
Total hours offered	**40.00 hours**

Conference Presenters

Kadesha Adelakun, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S,
The Journey Counseling Services, LLC, Kennesaw, GA
Aseye Allah, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S,
Kaiser Permanente, Santa Ana, CA
Rachel Altvater, PsyD, RPT-S, FPT Board of Directors,
Creative Psychological Health Services, Catonsville, MD
Jared Andes, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S,
Full Spectrum Counseling, Salt Lake City, UT
Marit Appeldoorn, MSW, LICSW, RPT-S,
Hope and Healing Family Counseling, Roseville, MN
Jeff Ashby, PhD, ABPP, RPT-S,
Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
Korinne Babel, PhD, LPC, RPT-S,
The University of North Alabama, Florence, AL
Sarah Bargar, MSW, LCSW, RPT,
Grandview Family Counseling, Bountiful, UT
Irene Bautista, MS, LPC, RPT,
View Point Health, Snellville, GA
Ann Beckley-Forest, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S,
Playful EMDR Training & Consulting, Buffalo, NY
Mary Bennett, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S,
Mary Bennett, PhD, LLC, Austin, TX
Marla Berger, MS, LMHC, RPT-S,
Berger Counseling Services, LLC, Coral Springs, FL
Sue Bratton, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S,
University of North Texas, Denton, TX
Jeanne Brown, MS, LCP, RPT-S,
Wichita State University, Wellington, KS
Kristy Brumfield, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S,
Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA
John Burr, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S,
Evergreen Counseling, Orem, UT
Rebekah Byrd, PhD, LPC, RPT-S,
Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT
Angela Cavett, PhD, RPT-S,
Chrysalis Behavioral Health Services and Training Center, West Fargo, ND
Peggy Ceballos, PhD, LPC-A,
University of Texas - San Antonio, San Antonio, TX
Nicole Chavez, PsyD, RPT-S,
Orange County Family Wellness Group, Irvine, CA
Rebeca Chow, PhD, LCPC, RPT-S, APT Board of Directors,
Resurrection Church, Leawood, KS
Gloria Cockerill, MA, LCSW, RPT-S,
One Family Illinois, Chicago, IL
Nick Cornett, PhD, LPC, RPT,
John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR
Janet Courtney, PhD, LCSW, RPT-S,
Developmental Play & Attachment Therapies, Inc., Sebastian, FL
Mary Ruth Cross, MS, LMFT, RPT-S,
Treehouse Family Counseling Services, San Ramon, CA
Joseph De Luna, PsyD, RPT,
Biola University, Rosemead School of Psychology, La Mirada, CA
Dalena Dillman Taylor, PhD, LMHC, RPT-S,
University of North Texas, Denton, TX
Alicia Donovan, MA, LPC, RPT-S,
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
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April Duncan, DSW, LCSW, RPT-S,
BMH Connect, Charlotte, NC
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Diana Garza Louis, MEd, LPC-S, RPT-S,
Rio Grande Counseling Center, Austin, TX
Richard Gaskill, EdD, LCPC, RPT-S,
Wichita State University, Wichita, KS
Eliana Gil, PhD, LMFT, RPT-S,
Gil Institute for Trauma Recovery & Educ, Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Courtney Glickman, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S,
Collective Healing Center, Arnold, MD
Paris Goodyear-Brown, PhD, LCSW, RPT-S,
TraumaPlay Institute, Franklin, TN
Robert Grant, EdD, LPC, RPT-S,
AutPlay Therapy Clinic, Springfield, MO
Palmer Gudmundson, EdS, LPC,
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Healing and Hope CC, Rockhill, SC
Kimberly Hagmann, MS, LPC-IT,
Brave Spaces Counseling and Wellness, La Crosse, WI
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Antioch University, Seattle, WA
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Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
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Heidi Kaduson, PhD, RPT-S,
The Play Therapy Training Institute, Monroe Township, NJ
Suzi Kagan, PhD,
The Israeli Play Therapy School, Tel Aviv, Israel
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Creative Psychological Health Services, Catonsville, MD
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Play Therapy Corner, Las Cruces, NM
Kimberly King, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S,
University of North Texas, Denton, TX
Terry Kottman, PhD, LMHC, RPT-S,
LEAPT- League of Extraordinary Adlerian Play Therapists, Cedar Falls, IA
Kelley Krueger, PhD,
Pacific Clinics, Upland, CA
Natalie Larson, MA, LPCC-S, RPT-S,
The Theraplace, Blaine, MN
Maggi Leavitt, MA, LMFT, RPT-S,
Monarch Training Center, South Jordan, UT
Ahou Line, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S,
Parent Partnership Consulting, Dallas, TX
Winnie Liu, PhD, LPC-A,
Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA
Liana Lowenstein, MSW, RSW,
Private Practice, Toronto, ON, Canada

Conference Presenters
(continued)

Dylann Lowery, PhD, LMFT, RPT,
Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
Leigh Ellen Magness, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S,
Growth Therapy, Athens, GA
Brittany Massengale Houin, PhD, LPC, RPT,
Viterbo University, La Crosse, WI
Mandi Melendez, MA, LMFT-S, RPT-S, APT Board of Directors
Nurture Family Counseling, Cedar Park, TX
Clair Mellenthin, PhD, LCSW, RPT-S,
Utah Valley University, Orem, UT
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The Misiph Center for Therapy and Training, Boynton Beach, FL
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Tara Moser, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S, FPT Board of Directors
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Julie Nash, PhD, RPT-S, APT Board of Directors,
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Danielle Newkam, PsyD, RPT-S,
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Child Savers, Richmond, VA
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A Time for Play, Houston, TX
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Sivan Sarig, MA,
The Israeli Play Therapy School, Tel Aviv, Israel
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Mariana Shively, MA, LPC, RPT-S,
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Althea Simpson, PhD, LCSW, RPT-S,
Brighter Day Therapeutic Solutions, Woodbridge, VA
Jodi Smith, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S, Play Is Powerful!®, Claremont, CA
Nancy Soliz, MS, LMFT, RPT-S,
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Cathi Spooner, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S,
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Sarah Stroup, MA, LMFT, RPT-S,
Monarch Family Counseling, Herriman, UT
Erica Tatum-Sheade, DSW, LCSW, RPT-S,
Integrated Mental Health Associates, Scottsdale, AZ
LaKaavia Taylor, PhD, LPC, RPT,
Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX
Sabrina Thakur, MS, LMFT, RPT-S,
Pacific Clinics, Upland, CA
Kaleb Thompson, PhD, LPC-A,
University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, NC
Haley Todd, MSW, LCSW, RPT,
Utah Valley University, Orem, UT
Kim Vander Dussen, PsyD, RPT-S, APT Board of Directors,
The Chicago School of Professional Psychology Anaheim, Anaheim, CA
Janeece Warfield, PHD, RPT-S,
Wright State University, Dayton, OH
Erica Wassenaar, MS, LMHC, RPT-S,
LEAPT- League of Extraordinary Adlerian Play Therapists, Cedar Falls, IA
Holly Willard, MSW, LCSW, RPT-S,
Grandview Family Counseling, Bountiful, UT
Amy Work, MA, LCMHC-QS, RPT-S,
Renewed Counseling & Play Therapy, Charlotte, NC
Kate Worley, PhD, LPC, RPT,
Stockton University, Galloway, NJ
Jeri Yingling, MS, LPC, RPT-S,
Crystal Creek Counseling, Woodland Park, CO

Conference Policies

Conference attendees should familiarize themselves with these policies and disclaimers to ensure they understand their rights, responsibilities, and the limitations of APT.

Eligibility Policy

The Annual APT International Conference is open to mental health professionals or full-time graduate students in a mental health field. Although not eligible to receive continuing education credit, allied professionals (pediatricians, nurses, etc.) are welcome to attend. **Due to the nature of the topics presented, children of any age are not permitted in conference workshops or venues for the duration of the event.** This ensures the best experience for all attendees. APT has the right to refuse or cancel ineligible registrations at any time and shall not be held accountable for any outside fees associated with this cancellation. If you have any specific questions regarding your eligibility status, please contact us at info@a4pt.org.

Cancellation Policy

Registration cancellations must be submitted to APT in writing by September 9, 2026. The Conference fees, minus a $75 administrative charge, will be refunded only if request is received by September 9, 2026.

- **No Refunds After September 9:** Due to binding financial commitments, **no refunds or credits** will be issued for cancellations received after **September 9, 2026,** or for individuals who register but do not attend the conference.
- **Registration Transfers:** Registrations may be **transferred to another individual without penalty,** provided written notification is received by APT no later than **September 30, 2026.**
- **Cancellation by APT:** In the event of unforeseen circumstances, APT reserves the right to cancel this conference. If such occurs, APT will attempt to notify registrants at least 10 calendar days prior to the conference and refund all registration, workshop, continuing education, and tour fees. In all instances, the liability of APT is limited to refunding such fees.

Disclaimers

- The annual conference is a private event. Access is limited to individuals who are officially registered as attendees, presenters, or exhibitors. Unregistered individuals will not be permitted to attend any conference-related activities or sessions. We reserve the right to refuse or cancel any conference registration at our discretion, including but not limited to individuals whose participation we deem inconsistent with the goals or values of the event.
- For access to all conference areas—including workshops, forums, meetings, and the exhibit hall—attendees and guests must wear their name badges at all times. Badges identify registered participants and help us ensure a smooth and secure experience. Individuals without a visible badge will be asked to leave the conference area.
- All forums and general sessions are included at no additional cost for attendees who are registered with at least one paid workshop. Registrations that do not include at least one workshop are subject to cancellation.
- Registration and participation in APT workshops and other activities constitutes an agreement by the registrant to the use and distribution (both now and in the future) of the registrant or attendee's image or voice in photographs, videos, electronic reproductions, and audiotapes of such events and activities by APT.
- The Annual Conference is sponsored by APT for educational purposes only. The material presented is not intended to represent the only or best approaches to the topics being discussed and participants waive any claim they may have against APT for assurance on information presented.

Unacceptable Behavior

All attendees are expected to conduct themselves professionally at the APT Conference and during all sponsored events. Unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- **Harassment, intimidation, or discrimination** of any kind.
- **Physical or verbal abuse** directed at APT staff, volunteers, attendees, speakers, exhibitors, service providers, or other guests. This includes offensive comments related to gender, sexual orientation, disability, appearance, race, religion, national origin, and the inappropriate use of sexual imagery or language, as well as threats or stalking.
- **Respect personal space and boundaries.** Unwanted physical contact of any kind is not permitted.
- **Disrupting presentations or events**, whether during sessions, in the exhibit hall, or at other APT-sponsored venues.
- **Using presentations or messages to promote products**, job offers, services, or other solicitations. APT reserves the right to remove such content and may ban the source.
- APT has a **zero-tolerance policy** for discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment.

Consequences: APT reserves the right to take any action it deems necessary and appropriate in response to unacceptable behavior. This may include immediate removal from the conference without warning or refund and prohibition from attending future APT events.

If you experience or witness any inappropriate behavior, please report it immediately to Diane Leon, Vice President & COO of APT, at **dleon@a4pt.org** or **559-298-3400**, so we can take appropriate action.

Registration Information

Register by September 9, 2026 to SAVE!

- **Online:** www.a4pt.org
- **Mail:** APT, 401 Clovis Avenue #107
  Clovis, CA 93612

Fees increase after September 9, 2026. Payment in full is required at time of registration. Only on-site registrations will be accepted after September 30, 2026. On-site registration is not guaranteed, and seating in preferred workshops cannot be assured for on-site registrants. Please note that all forums and general sessions are included at no additional cost for attendees who are registered with at least one paid workshop. Registrations that do not include at least one workshop are subject to cancellation. Individuals requiring special accommodations as defined by ADA must register by September 9, 2026.

Conference Fees

Total Fees = Registration fee + Workshop fees + CE fee

Registration Fee (Required)

Includes access to workshop handouts and required name badge for admittance to exhibits, workshops and receptions.

- **Member registration fee: $35** ($135 after September 9).
- **Non-Member registration fee: $135** ($235 after September 9).
- **Student registration fee: $25** ($75 after September 9).

Workshop Fees:

Customize your conference experience! Select and pay only for those workshops you wish to attend.

- **Full day (5 - 6 hours): $130**
- **Half day or Evening (2 - 3 hours): $65**

Continuing Education Fee: $30 ($40 onsite)

Fee covers Continuing Education and/or a Certificate of Attendance for the entire conference.

Guest Registration Fee: $125 ($150 onsite)

Guest fee is reserved for spouses/significant others of registered annual conference attendees and admits guest to the Exhibit Hall, Welcome Reception, Friday Keynote, Poster Session, Saturday Awards of Excellence, and APT After Party. Guest registration does not grant admission to workshops.

Purchase Order Fee: $15

Purchase orders are accepted for school districts and universities only. A $15 processing fee will be applied to all registrations submitted with a purchase order. Please note that all purchase orders must be paid in full by September 9, 2026.

Hotel Information

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

1300 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Guest Room Rate: $211 plus taxes and fees per night for single/double (includes Wi-Fi in guest rooms).

Room Reservations: Reservation link will be provided with conference registration confirmation email.

- A credit card number is required to hold each guest's stay.
- Reservations must be cancelled at least 72 hours before the arrival date or one night will be charged.
- This discounted hotel rate is exclusively available to registered attendees of the APT International Conference. Reservations without a corresponding conference registration are subject to cancellation.
- Room availability and special rates are available until September 9, 2026, or until the space is filled. We anticipate the room block will sell out and urge you to make your hotel reservations early.

Parking

The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis offers valet parking with in-and-out privileges.

Valet parking: Overnight rate is $55.00 per vehicle per night and includes in-and-out privileges. Oversize vehicles can be accommodated on a space-available basis in valet for $65.00 per night.

Self-Parking: For guests wishing to self-park, the Loring Parking Ramp is located next to the hotel but is not operated by Hyatt Regency Minneapolis. Overnight rate is $30.00. In-and-out privileges are possible for an additional $7 per night.

Transportation: Minneapolis–Saint Paul International Airport (MSP) is located approximately 12 miles from the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis and offers several convenient ground transportation options. Attendees can use rideshare services such as Uber, Lyft, and other app-based providers, with designated pick-up zones in the Ground Transportation Center. Taxis are also readily available, with one-way fares to the Hyatt Regency typically ranging from $39 to $49.

Travel Agent: Attendees may contact Dana Huckestein at Altour Travel for help arranging airline and rental car reservations: Dana.Huckestein@GlobalTravelCollection.com or (559) 431-0414. A $35 service fee applies to each airline ticket booked.

Association for Play Therapy United States

Annual Association for Play Therapy International Conference
October 13 - 18, 2026

Registration Form

Please print:

Name: _____ Degree: _____ Agency: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ *(required for confirmation email)*

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Emergency Contact Phone: _____

Registration Fee:		**Fees**
APT Member:	**$35** ($135 after Sept. 9)	$ _____
Non-APT Member:	**$135** ($235 after Sept. 9)	$ _____
Student:	**$25** ($75 after Sept. 9)	$ _____

Workshop Fees: Assignment is based on availability at time of registration and payment.

	1st choice	2nd choice	**Fees**
Tues, Oct. 13			
Tu1 – Tu2 8:30 am - 4:45 pm **$130/each** OR	_____	_____	$ _____
Tu3 – Tu5 8:30 am - 12:00 pm **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
Tu6 – Tu8 1:15 pm - 4:45 pm **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
Wed, Oct. 14			
W1 – W3 8:00 am - 4:15 pm **$130/each** OR	_____	_____	$ _____
W4 – W7 & DG1 8:00 am - 11:30 am **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
W8 – W11 & DG2 12:45 pm - 4:15 pm **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
W12 - W17 4:45 pm - 6:45 pm **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
Thurs, Oct. 15			
Th1 – Th4 8:00 am - 4:15 pm **$130/each** OR	_____	_____	$ _____
Th5 – Th9 & DG3-DG4 8:00 am - 11:30 am **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
Th10 – Th14 & DG5-DG6 12:45 pm - 4:15 pm **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
Th15 – Th21 4:45 pm - 6:45 pm **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
Fri, Oct. 16			
F1 – F3 10:00 am - 6:00 pm **$130/each** OR	_____	_____	$ _____
F4 – F9 & DG7 10:00 am - 12:30 pm **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
F10 – F15 & DG8 2:30 pm - 6:00 pm **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
Sat, Oct. 17			
S1 – S3 10:00 am - 5:30 pm **$130/each** OR	_____	_____	$ _____
S4 – S9 & DG9-DG10 10:00 am - 12:30 pm **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
S10 – S14 & DG11 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
Sun, Oct. 18			
Su1 – Su2 9:00 am - 4:45 pm **$130/each**	_____	_____	$ _____
Su3 – Su4 9:00 am - 12:15 pm **$65/each**	_____	_____	$ _____

Optional Item Fees:

Continuing Education Certificate: $30 $ _____
This CE Fee covers your continuing education credit hours and verification of attendance for the entire week. $40 if added on-site.

Purchase Order Fee: $15 $ _____
Applicable only if submitting a school district or university purchase order

Guest Registration Fee: $125 $ _____
Admits guest to the Exhibit Hall, Welcome Reception, Keynote, Poster Session,and After Party. $175 if added on-site. *This fee does not include admission to workshops.*

Foundation for Play Therapy Contribution: $ _____
Your voluntary charitable, tax-exempt contribution to the Foundation supports research and public awareness.

Charles Schaefer Play Therapy Scholarship: $ _____
Supports individuals who plan to obtain the Registered Play Therapist™ or School Based-Registered Play Therapist™ credential.

TOTAL DUE (add all fees) $_____

Method of Payment: Payment must accompany registration.

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard or ☐ Check # _____

Signature: _____

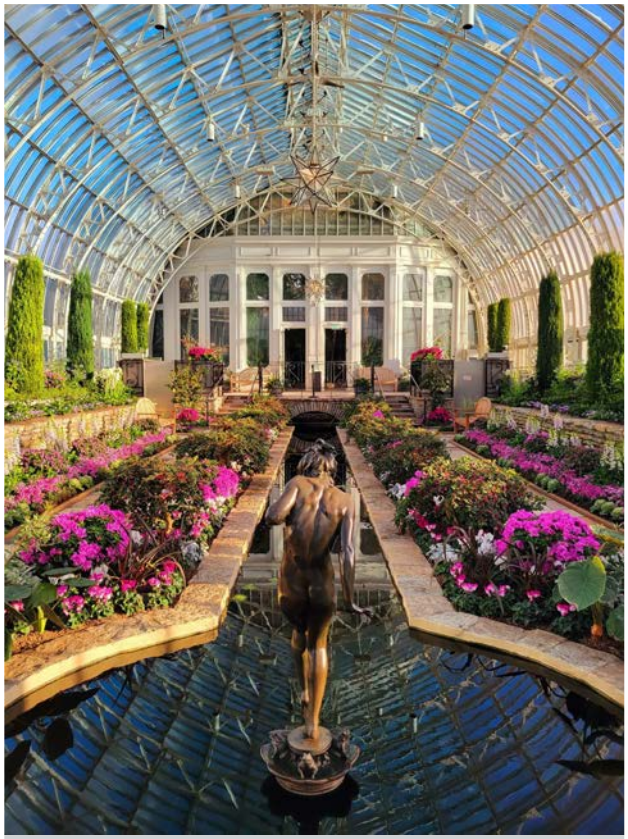
Card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____ AVS Code _____

_____ (please initial) I have read and agree to abide by the printed Cancellation Policy, Disclaimers and all other organizational policies printed in this brochure.

_____ Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, do you require specific aids or services? If checked, registration must be received by September 9, 2026.

We look forward to welcoming you in Minneapolis!



Over 90 workshops to choose from offering up to 40 hours of continuing education for:

• Counselors • Marriage and Family Therapists • Psychologists • School Counselors • School Psychologists • Social Workers

Register online at A4pt.org